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DIDSBURY REVIEW

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2013

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Volume 26 Issue 53



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UP IN THE AIR - Skier Josh Creighton gets air off a jump at the Butte in Didsbury on Dec. 27.

Noel West/MVP Staff

Three locals now probationary Calgary firefighters

BY KEVIN VINK
 MVP Staff

Beating the odds, three Didsbury firefighters have been accepted at the same time into the Calgary Fire Department (CFD) on a probationary basis.

Craig Martin, Kyle Leeson and Jonathan "Joe" Reinhardt all went through a stringent selection process and 11 weeks of intense training, and are now in for an 11-month tenure as probationary firefighters.

Martin, who has been with the Didsbury Fire Department (DFD) for seven years, says it was not an easy task to get through the application and selection process.

"It was tough to get into - the recruiting process was crazy," said Martin, noting the selection process takes about a year, and includes an aptitude test, a polygraph, and other training exercises.

For the 11-week training program they conducted search and rescue exercises, live fire exercises, vehicle extrication, as well as three major exams, he noted.

"There was some pretty intense physical fitness - I found it quite tough, but we got through it. And a lot of studying - there was a lot of studying."

Applicants can be let go at any time through the training program if they aren't successful, and he said that there were a few others being let go as they went through the course.

"So you had to bring your 'A' game every day. Unfortunately, we lost a couple along the way, so reality set in there."

The odds of three of Didsbury's fire-

fighters being chosen in the same year are very slim, he noted, adding that there were four days' worth of aptitude tests being held by the CFD, in which hundreds participated each day.

"That was the crazy thing, because there were 38 total in our class, and a limited number from Alberta alone. A lot were from out of province, and of course we carpooled together, and the first three people as we introduced ourselves were from small-town Didsbury."

They will be serving at three different stations throughout the year and write a six-month exam and an 11-month exam.

They have to be successful at both their stations and on their tests to get through the probation period successfully.

"It's a little different from any other job where it's a three-month probationary period; this is 11 months, so I think that's quite unique," he added.

He has always wanted to end up at a full-time municipal firehall, he said, but because he had always thought he would move back east, he never thought to apply in Calgary.

But now that he's realized he's settling down in Alberta and getting married, he decided to stay in the area and throw his name into the hat as a CFD firefighter.

He's still volunteering for the DFD on his shifts off, and he said he's grateful for the opportunities that it has provided to him, so he doesn't want to leave it yet.

Kyle Leeson said "It is a dream come true."

This was his fourth time applying to the CFD, and the first three times he

wasn't able to pass the written exams.

"And the fourth time I tried, I've been flying through all the steps and got through it all," he said.

He had thought of becoming a police officer, but after going on a ride-along with a Calgary police officer, he decided that career wasn't for him, so he went to a CFD open house right after graduating from high school, and "it looked like such a blast."

As his father is a firefighter for the Olds Fire Department, he grew up with the firefighting culture, and after making his own way for himself at the DFD, he is excited to take the next big step towards a rewarding career.

The training was tough, he said, but being able to train in the big facilities in Calgary was exciting.

"Being trained to that level and going into the smoke tower and being fully involved with live-fire training versus where ours (in Didsbury) is just simulated.

"It's more realistic and more hands on - not to shoot down Didsbury at all, but with a budget they have it makes sense."

The trio will be working at three different departments during their probation, with chiefs signing off on their performance after each term, and they are working shifts, with two days and two nights on, and four days off, he added.

"It's a dream come true. All my past jobs, I was just there to kind of work. Now I look forward going to work - I can't believe we get paid to do it."



Photo submitted

From left to right, Kyle Leeson, Craig Martin and Jonathan Reinhardt graduated from the Calgary Fire Department training course and are now in an 11-month probation period to become full-fledged firefighters.

Didsbury 2013: A year in Review

January

Sam Smalldon, CAO of Mountain View Seniors' Housing, presented the organization's plans for long-term sustainability, leadership and staff development, as well as facility management, to the Committee of the Whole early in the month. Mayor Brian Wittal said the organization is trying to build up to a point where they will not have to ask municipalities for requisitions to cover the costs of operation, and that getting skilled labour can also be an issue.

Smalldon said at the time that an increase in the amount of available housing would improve the bottom line and help the organization to be more efficient and cost-effective.

Waymore Service reopened later in the month after renovations in the shop.

The building suffered extensive smoke damage during a fire three months earlier, costing about \$250,000 in total.

The fire was suspected to have started when a battery charger overheated and caught fire.

The Ignite worship band released its debut CD, *Journey Home*, and talked about plans for the future with the Review.

They hosted a release show at the Zion Evangelical Missionary Church, and have gotten support from the communities in the area, as well as the band members' churches.

Late in the month, the Didsbury Out of School Care Association (DOSCA) received provincial accreditation after staff had worked for over two years to reach that goal.

This label allows DOSCA officials to get additional funding to help with staff, and is also a badge for the organization, because it recognizes the high quality of child care that it offers.

February

The Masterfeeds feed mill closed its doors early in the month, after months of officials scaling back the operations there.

The brand name is still going strong, but the Didsbury facility was closed and its business referred to other facilities and outlets in the area.

Town council finalized the rules surrounding the use and parking of recreational vehicles (RVs).

The limitation is that RVs must now be parked on a hard-surface pad, which is defined in the Community Standards Bylaw as a gravel, asphalt or concrete pad.

Community peace officer Derek Sutherland said at

the time that the restriction is basically to prevent residents or their guests from parking an RV on a lawn.

The other restriction passed by council is that nobody can reside in an RV on their property for more than 30 days per calendar year.

A water main break in Southridge Crescent caused many problems for both residents and town officials.

Three residences were without water for most of a day, but service was restored by midnight.

The issue was remedied, but the break was eventually included in the sewer, water and storm runoff upgrades that had been previously planned for that area.

The Mountainview Colts and Three Hills Thrashers raised over \$40,000 in a charity game benefiting the Rural Ride for Dad Association.

The Colts raised \$32,000 with seven goals, while the Thrashers brought in about \$7,200 with one goal, according to the final count after the game. This far surpassed the goal of \$30,000 that organizers had hoped for, and the game is planned to become an annual event.

March

The Rosebud Health Foundation decided to move ahead with fundraising plans for the new helipad needed at the Didsbury Hospital.

The RHF continues to raise funds for the helipad, and was also working at the time towards updating the emergency room at the hospital, among other things.

Town council passed the 2013 capital budget for the town's operations totalling \$4,688,250. Mayor Brian Wittal said at the time that town officials attempted to maintain the status quo by keeping their staff lean

and keeping an eye on their departmental budgets.

Council planned to focus on a few big projects using the 2013 budget, including upgrading the upper sewage lagoons, work on the Shantz Pond, and replacement of 100 metres of sanitary and water pipelines.

Council also pitched in some money for the preliminary design work on the planned new firehall.

Other plans included maintenance work on the lagoons, reconditioning of 23rd Street, public works equipment, and giving public parks a facelift.

After some issues with contractors, Ashbury Design was moving forward with the construction of Heritage Crossing.

The condominium complex is going to feature 48 high-end suites across four storeys on an acre-sized lot at 21 Avenue and 21 Street - the former site of the Missionary Church.

A large portion of the formwork would likely have to be removed and replaced before the project could continue, owner Morris Monk said at the time.

It was announced late in the month that a Tim Hortons will be built at Reimer Plaza after five years of planning.

James Carpenter announced that he was working on leasing a site with a franchisee, and he said the coffee shop would be a double-queue, drive-thru, 24-hour, free-standing operation at the plaza.

The opening was announced at the time to be slated for September or October 2013.

Coun. Rayburn Anderson was disqualified from council after failing to attend council meetings since Jan. 22, 2013.

Anderson, who was in the process of moving to British Columbia, and had been working there for some time, failed to inform council and administration of his plans and was disqualified under the Municipal Government Act.

continued to p. 4



Kevin Vink/MVP Staff

CHRISTMAS SPIRIT - The Didsbury Elks made their annual contribution to the Didsbury Hospital last month, with about 70 items for kids being donated. The items consisted of toys, colouring books, stuffed animals and others. From left to right are Laura Wasko, Andrea Reid, Margie Yellowoga, Terry Phillips (exalted ruler of the Didsbury Elks), Jen Awde and Penny Clazie.

Development permits for 2013 released

BY KEVIN VINK
MVP Staff

The number of building permits issued in 2013 is higher than last year, although the value of the permits is down overall, according to officials.

Dani Woodman, development officer for the town, said there were 80 building permits issued in 2013, compared to 73 in 2012.

She also said that the overall value for per-

mits issued in 2013 was \$8,375,300, compared to \$21,418,890 in 2012, although the discrepancy is likely due to the permit for the Bethany Care Centre, which was issued in 2012 and was valued at \$17,000,000.

"It was a busier year for development," said Woodman.

"Single family homes created increased from 13 in 2012 to 23 in 2013 (as of November)," she added, noting an additional six residential permits and one more commercial permit being issued in December.

Notice of Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Rosebud Health Foundation will be held on

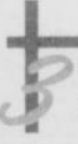
Wednesday, Jan. 29, 2014
at the 5-0 Club (Didsbury)
Beginning at 7:00 p.m.

NOTE: Members, for your consideration and approval, at the Annual General Meeting.

It is the intention of the Board of Directors of the Rosebud Health Foundation to propose a change to the Societies Act by-laws affecting Paragraph 7 of the existing by-laws of the Society.

NOTE: Anyone interested in sitting on the Rosebud Health Foundation Board, please attend as Election of Officers will take place.

Any questions contact:
Albert Ohlhauser (403) 518-5183
or Colleen Gustavson (403) 335-9840

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Opinion

Labour war brewing in Alberta

Despite the premier's assertion that her government made "tremendous progress" in 2013, the PCs will be facing significant challenges in 2014, not the least of which may be a looming war with thousands of public service employees.

In her year-end wrap-up of the government's 2013 achievements, Premier Alison Redford says she believes things went very well over the past 12 months.

"I'm so proud of what we've accomplished this year," said Redford. "In the face of the bitumen bubble and the worst flooding in Alberta's history, we made some difficult choices, but they allowed us to keep our economy on track."

"We are working hard to ensure we're building Alberta for the four million Albertans today and the million more who we'll welcome over the next decade."

Under their Building Alberta Plan, the PCs introduced and passed almost three dozen pieces of legislation. The premier cited the Flood Recovery and Reconstruction Act and the Enhancing Safety on Alberta Roads Act as highlight legislation in 2013.

Interestingly the premier did not mention the Public Service Salary Restraint Act in her wrap-up – but maybe that's because Alberta labour groups and others have come out very strongly against that act, calling it an unprecedented attack on workers' rights in this province.

If a negotiated new agreement cannot be reached between the province and Alberta Union of Provincial Employees (AUPE) members by Jan. 31, 2014, the act will allow the province to impose a settlement.

"Even the one route that we have to go to arbitration is being blocked, undemocratically, by what is being seen or increasingly being seen as a dictatorship in this province," said AUPE president Guy Smith.

Minister of Finance Doug Horner has been spearheading the government's response to the protests, saying the act adheres to the government's overall fiscal policy.

"When you look at the fact that we believe that there is an opportunity for a negotiated settlement, this is something that the two parties should be working on, not a third party independent from what the taxpayer might be looking at," said Horner.

If the Redford government cannot reach a new agreement with the AUPE by the end of January – and an imposed settlement is then put in place under the new act – it could lead to all-out war between the government and the province's largest union, with literally millions of Albertans caught in the middle.

And make no mistake, a Redford-AUPE war would be a crisis of the first order for the PC government now celebrating its "tremendous progress" over the past year.



DAN SINGLETON

WHEN NEW YEAR'S ARRIVES, YA DON'T LIE LOW
— YA UNCORK YER SPIRIT, AN' LET 'ER FLOW...

Basky
©13



Letter to the Editor

Spoil unions and their self entitled leaders

I was more than annoyed by the opinion piece by Gil McGowan in the Dec. 17 paper ("Sledgehammering labour with draconian laws", p. 6 *Didsbury Review*).

To preface my comments, I acknowledge that I have never been a union employee. Since finishing university 20 years ago I have been an entrepreneur who has had to pay my own employee benefits and have always been remunerated based on performance.

I am also the president of the Olds Didsbury Three Hills PC association and have a lot more confidence in our government than any union boss.

As an accountant in public practice I know the average union employee is required to pay approximately \$1,100 per year in dues. With 22,000 AUPE members, that union has \$24,000,000 to spend annually and it spends millions on advertising to publicly vilify the government.

The fact is that the Alberta gov-

ernment employees are the highest paid in the country.

I know not all union employees support union leadership, but they are all forced to pay union dues to support their union leadership's antics.

I acknowledge Mr. McGowan has a job to do and that he wrote this article as part of his job. However, he slants his arguments to support raising the benefits for the union, not as a defender of the constitution or free speech. McGowan says "Bill 46 breaks the historic bargain, struck by Peter Lougheed".

Times have changed and just like union usefulness, government legislation cannot be the same as it was 40 years ago.

The provincial government needs to protect Alberta taxpayers. Arbitrators have awarded unions increases when governments have operated under deficits.

So clearly arbitration has worked against the public. Changes needed to be made.

If you crunch the numbers, our provincial budget is 45 per cent health care and 33 per cent education, and 80 per cent of those two alone are for wages. The remaining 22 per cent also has AUPE members.

The only way to control future spending is to control wage costs, which means limiting union influence.

I do agree people shouldn't be fined for speech. My interpretation of these fines is that if there is an illegal strike and you are speaking for it in an organizing capacity, you will be fined.

No loopholes for organizers to get out of being penalized just because they themselves didn't participate in the strike.

I am tired of multimillion-dollar media campaigns advertising to spend more of my tax dollars, which are funded by regular workers forced to pay union dues.

William Stevenson
Carstairs

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REVIEW

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Didsbury 2013: A year in Review

Continued from p.2

April

Municipal Sustainability Initiative funding provided to the town from the provincial government was increased by 25.3 per cent.

The town ended up receiving \$1,196,000 in 2013, with most of the money slated to go into reserve funds at the time.

The Pharmasave and Value Drug Mart owners and staff teamed up to protest the provincial government's changes to prescription drug funding.

They said the cuts would harm both business and the public by raising costs and making pharmacy staff take on more responsibilities.

The Didsbury Playground Society finished off its fundraising for a toddler

play park at the Kinsmen Park, which had previously been built.

Officials said there were still some bills to be taken care of, even though the park had already been completed.

The society planned to keep raising funds for more projects in the future.

Town officials hosted an open forum to gather residents' opinions on the future of the pool at the Didsbury Memorial Complex.

About 200 people attended the first of two meetings, voicing overwhelming support for keeping the pool and asking council to go ahead with whatever repairs were necessary to keep the facility open, even after hearing from officials that the maintenance and repairs needed would cost about \$1.2 to \$1.3 million.

Town council also voted to change the waste, compost and recycling disposal service provider to Can-Pak

Environmental Inc.

The change in service took place in July, and along with the new provider came the new blue recycling bins.

May

Thanks to the help of many volunteers, the 21st annual Didsbury Show 'n' Shine was a success, with about 352 registered cars coming in for the event.

Weeks before the event, officials were worried that they would not be able to hold the event because there were so few volunteers, but when the word got out, many residents stepped up to help out and ensure the event went over smoothly.

Olds RCMP, with help from Didsbury Mounties, arrested a Calgary man in the middle of the month, who was charged with murdering a woman and child found dead in a Calgary home earlier that day.

Although police executed a "high-risk" takedown of the suspect, the man surrendered peacefully, according to reports.

Westglen School students hosted Spencer West, a motivational speaker who was walking from Edmonton to Calgary in May.

The school's We Day team held a penny drive for Free the Children, an organization that encourages sustainable development and education in Third-World countries.

The students raised \$1,671 through the penny drive, along with other initiatives.

June

The Didsbury Museum was able to hire a new part-time manager with the help of an increase in funding from the town.

Joanne Pope has been managing the museum since June which has allowed the museum to stay open more often, and has also helped in the acquisition of funding and grants.

Town and Mountain View County officials were working out the county's contributions towards the replacement of an HVAC system that needed to be replaced at the Didsbury Memorial Complex.

The unit itself had cost about \$400,000, and council was asking the county to pitch in \$148,000.

The Didsbury Lions Club held its annual soapbox derby, with just under 30 youngsters bringing their project cars to race down the hill on Highway 582, on the north side of town.

The event pulled in nearly double the number of racers that attended the 2012 event, and officials said they're hoping that the event will keep growing.

July

Council voted to repair the south end of 23rd Street that leads out of town to the county boundary line, south of town.

Council agreed upon a cost of \$157,828, plus a 12.5 per cent contingency for extra base layer material, if needed. Mayor Brian Wittal said at the time that although council would have liked to see the road completely repaved, the repairs should last about 15 to 20 years with another layer being applied in five to seven years.

Municipal representatives from across the province, as well as some

from Miki Town, Japan, gathered in town for the Alberta/Japan Twinned Municipalities Association conference and AGM.

The mayor of Miki Town, as well as other town officials, came to talk about the partnership with Didsbury, and how the connections are benefiting the parties involved.

Arthur "Art" Eastly, a novelist who lives and works on his farm southeast of town, released his debut book, *Black Arrow* in December 2012, and he and his agent were already looking at printing the second edition in July.

The book, a western that he classifies as historical fiction, won Eastly a silver medal for the Canada-West - Best Regional Fiction division of the 2013 Independent Publishers Book Awards, which received over 5,200 entries in total.

Mountain View Rocks 2013 was hosted with between 400 and 500 in attendance, and eight local and area bands performing throughout the day at the public park on the north side of town.

August

Following a snafu with medical records being compromised, Alberta Health Services officials urged those dealing with medical records to ensure the proper agreements and contracts are in place.

Dr. Dianne Smith left the Didsbury Medical Clinic to start her own clinic, and upon leaving, learned that she had not signed the proper contracts with an Electronic Medical Record provider, and thus, the records of her patients were not under her control.

The issue was eventually resolved and she gained control of the records.

The newly-formed Didsbury Car Club took over operation of the Didsbury Show 'n' Shine in August, after the previous board was unable to continue holding the event.

The Didsbury Car Club is planning events other than the show and shine, and accepts members who have enthusiasm for cars of all kinds.

September

Town council voted to send Didsbury deputy CAO Luana Smith to Cremona to assist that village's council until the end of October while a viability study for the village was being completed.

Smith had been training for the past two years to take over as CAO of Didsbury, and CAO Roy Brown said that she would do well for Cremona for the two months she was there.

Following an appeal, Riley Chalack and Royden Anderson were still unsure as to what the results of their disqualification as the UFA Stampede Steer Classic champions would be.

The steer belonging to Chalack had been disqualified after trace amounts of drugs were found in the steer's blood, following a blood test after the win at the competition.

The water bylaw was changed so that property owners, rather than renters, are now responsible for the payment of utility bills.

Officials said the change is to help ensure the town is not financially stiffed by renters who skip out of town without settling their debts.

Officials also said that although owners are responsible for the bills, renters can still pay the town directly for the charges they incur.



Kevin Vink/MVP Staff

(Left to right) Neil and Sheila Walker, Sharon Vink and Leisha Odnokon check out a 1957 Chevrolet Bel Air at the Show 'n' Shine in May.

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Didsbury 2013: A year in Review

October

The Town of Didsbury completed the Recreation and Culture Master Plan, and it was accepted in council as information.

Efforts to compile the plan started back in January, and through the work of various individuals who volunteered to sit on a committee, the long-term plan for recreation and culture was to be reviewed by the new council at its strategic plan meeting in November.

A Didsbury man was arrested on drug trafficking charges, following a warrant execution by Didsbury RCMP.

Over \$11,000 worth of drugs, mainly cocaine and crack cocaine, were seized following the search of a vehicle that he was operating, with 87 grams overall of crack cocaine and cocaine being seized, along with a small quantity of marijuana, according to police.

After an intense municipal election race in which 10 candidates vied for seats on town council, residents chose Gail Nowlan, LaVar Adams, Joyce McCoy, Sheila Schulz, Kim Moore and Garth Hollinger to be councillors for the next four years.

Mayor Rick Mousseau won by acclamation after no other candidates threw in their names for that seat.

November

A grandfather and mother died in a crash on the icy Highway 27, near Rge. Rd. 250, when the truck that the pair were driving crossed into the opposing lane and was hit by an oilfield services truck.

The funeral was held in Olds for Tammy Moritz, 47, and her father Roy Stockwood, 76, early in the month.

Telus announced that it would be bringing fibre optic Internet and television services to Didsbury. The company planned to run the fibre lines directly to residences in town free of charge, with the option of starting the service at any time.

The Vision 4 Non-Violence (V4NV) committee, a Carstairs and Didsbury initiative started to prevent family violence and bullying, received praise for its work when it received the 2013 Inspiration Award.

The award recognizes those who work to end family violence and inspire Albertans to take action and make a difference. The awards were established in 2012 and are given out to Albertans every November during Family Violence Prevention Month.

Olds RCMP arrested a number of people on charges of possession of stolen property, following both a vehicle stop and warrant execution in Olds.

It is suspected that the culprits broke into multiple homes in Olds and the area, and at least one item was confirmed to have been stolen from Didsbury.

December

Riley Chalack, Royden Anderson, and others who participated in the handling of the disqualified steer, were banned from the 2014 UFA Stampede Steer Classic, after the appeal was denied by the Calgary Stampede.

Anderson still believed that the disqualification was not justified, and Stampede officials said that they would stand by their decision.

Continued to p. 6



Noel West/MVP Staff

Emergency services personnel survey the scene at the pileup on the QEII that occurred in December.

Church Directory

The REVIEW is pleased to provide this Church Directory as a community service

Bergthal Mennonite Church

Didsbury, Alberta
5km S of the Didsbury Overpass,
8km E on Bergthal Rd.
Sunday Worship Service - 11:00 a.m.
For more information
phone 403-335-4451

Knox United Didsbury

1406 - 19th Avenue 403-335-8373
Join us for worship 10 a.m. Sundays,
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For more information go to
www.knox-united.com
People make the place!
Rev. Liz Bowyer:
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Venue Church

Welcome Home
10 a.m. Sundays
Pastors Corey & Erin Kope
Pastors Richard & Beth Kope
1710 - 14 Street Didsbury
403-335-3551
Email info@venuechurch.ca
www.venuechurch.ca

St. Anthony's Catholic

2030 - 24 Ave. Didsbury
For more information please contact
Catholic Women's League:
Maxine Moreau 403-335-4948
Knights of Columbus:
Gary McNeil 403-335-8611
For more information
Olds St. Steven's Office
403-556-3084

Redeemer Lutheran Lutheran Church Canada

1500 - 23 St. • Rev. Robert Mohr
Church: 403-335-3161 / Res: 403-335-3656
Sunday School - 9:30 a.m. • Worship - 10:30 a.m.
Adult Bible Study Sunday - 9:30 a.m.
Holy Communion 1 & 3 Sunday 10:30 a.m.
Jr. & Sr. Youth, Women's & Seniors' Ministry Group
Small Group Bible Study meetings
throughout the week

Mountain View Evangelical Missionary Church

14 km East of Didsbury Pastor Art Numan
Office: 403-335-4422
Morning Worship 11 a.m. • Sunday School 10 a.m.
For information concerning the weekly
activities please call the Church Office.

Anglican Church of Canada St. Cyprian's

2037 - 24th Ave. Didsbury - 403-335-4664
Rector - David Asher
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
Holy Communion - 2nd & 4th Sunday
each month

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Senior Pastor Mal Braun
Youth Pastor Josh Tiel
Sunday Services 10:00 am
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Colin Creighton, Associate Pastor
Alison Lefebvre, Youth Pastor
Christine Little, Children's Pastor
Sunday Services 10:45 am
Sunday School at 9:30 for all ages
Programming for children up to Gr. 6

CLOSING

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Investing in the community and its future

BY KEVIN VINK
MVP Staff

Two men in town have decided to start up a cooperative in Didsbury, after deciding that they would like to see the town grow forward through investment in services the town needs.

The Didsbury Community Investment Cooperative, being started by Lance Plewis and Bruce Milne, came out of "a desire to build Didsbury for the future," said Milne.

Milne has helped many organizations raise funds in the past, from relief work to Samaritan's Purse, and currently acts as site administrator for Donor.com, which offers fundraising-related programs for not-for-profits.

"So I've helped many organizations raise a lot of funds. I'm very about community development," said Milne.

"Being in Didsbury too, for the last seven years, Didsbury is my community. I want to see it grow and have a strong identity of who we are."

The Alberta Community Development Cooperative Association is guiding and providing expertise and advice to form a cooperative, and Milne would like to get something going here in town.

"And there's lots of people around town concerned with driving the commerce and business in town to keep us growing into the future, so I think that's where this is really coming from."

Although a bit of an unusual thing these days, he said the idea isn't new.

In fact, there are many such organizations currently thriving in Europe, although they are called building societies.

By starting a cooperative like this, it gives anybody an opportunity to be a member and invest in the town directly, he said.

"There's a lot of RRSP money that goes everywhere else. People put a lot of money into their retirement savings plan and it goes to Toronto and it goes to the States.

"The idea here is it lets us invest where we live, and that will really give everybody a good sense of security. Their money is not going into some nameless hole somewhere, instead it's going to be right where they can see it."

The cooperative will use the money to open and stimulate business in town, and he explains the cooperative model is simply that people in the community collaborate and instead of one person setting up a business to benefit the community, everybody chips in, making it affordable.

"So it's not just one owner - it's community-owned and that then becomes the capital to improve on the town."

"So the idea is to bring the commerce, bring the investment and grow the town locally so everyone can be part of it."

The goal of the Didsbury Cooperative is to own the kind of businesses in town that everybody wants and everybody uses, he added.

"We're not trying to take over the town and be in competition with a good business. The point is to bring in more local business, right in our town."

"Especially when...we've had lots of ideas floating around regarding sustainable ideas, all those kinds of good things people talk about that we don't



Della Milne/Photo submitted

Lance Plewis (left) and Bruce Milne are working on starting up a cooperative with the goal of investing in and growing Didsbury.

see in town."

Currently, Plewis and Milne are forming an interim board to take care of the legal paperwork, but they are hoping

the cooperative will start up soon.

For those interested in learning more, the website is (www.didsbury-coop.ca)

Didsbury 2013: A year in Review

Continued from p. 5

Over 30 vehicles were damaged and hundreds more were backed up for many hours.

Only minor injuries were reported in the crash, which occurred during an afternoon whiteout blizzard.

The Didsbury Memorial Complex was opened up for a few who were involved in the crash, and town officials helped them make arrangements for rides

or lodging.

The Rosebud Run Sleddog Society (RRSS) held the annual Rosebud Run Sleddog Classic and despite some complications due to the windy and cold weather, organizers said it went well.

The mushers enjoyed it and were all able to make it to the race, with 27 teams and 23 racers showing up.

It was revealed to council that the helipad for the Didsbury Hospital could cost less than expected.

After the design work is completed, the Rosebud Health Foundation, which has been raising money to be put towards the expedited construction of a helipad, will see what kinds of prices area contractors can come up with, potentially costing less than the \$500,000 total that was quoted by Alberta Health Services officials.

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Didsbury

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Deadlines: Friday - 12 noon, Holiday weekends - Thursday 12 noon.

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Marketplace

100. Obituaries 100. Obituaries

YOUSPH

James (Jim) Douglas Yousph was born in Calgary, Alberta on August 10, 1929 and peacefully passed away at the age of 84 on November 25, 2013. Jim spent most of his life working in construction and farming. He was a loving father and husband, enjoyed watching hockey, camping, and travelling. He was well loved and respected by his family and community. He is lovingly remembered by his wife, Ethel, his two sons; Dale (Sue), and Doug (Kathy); three daughters; Marion (Sam), Lynda (Rob), Donna (Rick); and his 8 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren. Jim will be greatly missed and remembered by his family and the community. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Unit 4 of the Didsbury Health Services.

OVERWATER, Antoinette



Antoinette (Toni) Marie Overwater passed away surrounded by her family and close friends at the Didsbury Hospital on Monday, December 16, 2013 following her fight with cancer. Toni was born August 10, 1945 in St. Andrew's, Manitoba. She attended St. Andrew School, St. Mary's Academy and St. Benedict's Academy in Manitoba. Following her move with her family to Didsbury in 1961, she completed her grade 12 at the Didsbury High School. Upon graduating, Toni accepted a position as "ward aid" at the Michener Centre in Red Deer. She then transferred back to Didsbury where she began to upgrade her nursing education by taking various courses while working to receive her LPN status. Toni spent her life in the nursing field, working at Didsbury, Olds, Drumheller, Linden, Alberta as well as in Kelvington and Conora, Saskatchewan. She also acted as Union Representative for her fellow nurses while working in Didsbury. She was known as a gentle, caring nurse and had the ability and patience to work with the elderly and palliative care patients. In spite of her busy life, she still gave time to her church, the Carstairs CWL, and to sporting associations her son Jeff participated in. Toni is lovingly remembered by her son Jeff; grandson, Kason; brothers, John (Inga), Joe (Mary-Anne), George, Tony (Sharon) Neil, Peter (Tammy), Paul (Helen) and Chris (Kristine); sisters, Fran Murphy, Pat Krebs, Theresa McNeil (Gary) and Mary Trenholm (John), as well as many nieces, nephews and great nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her partner, Don; two sons, Adam, Graeme Troy; parents, John and Antoinette Overwater; brother, Eric; sister Anne; nephews Marty Krebs and Joel Terpsma; sister-in-law, Vera Lee Overwater and brother-in-law Frank Murphy. A Funeral Mass was held at St. Stephens Catholic Church on Saturday, December 21, 2013 at 11:00 am. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Alberta Cancer Fund, 1331 - 29 Street NW, Calgary, AB, T2N 4N2. Messages of condolence may be left for the family at www.myalternatives.ca.



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Thank you

We would like to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to everyone who sent flowers, cards, and condolences after the passing of Jim Yousph. We would like to say thank you for the lovely service to Reverend Derksen of Bancroft United Church of Carstairs. A big thank you goes out to the Ladies Auxiliary for the hearty luncheon after the service. Also a greater appreciation to Dr. Smit, the staff of Didsbury Health Service Unit 4, Aspen Ridge of Didsbury, and The Chinook Winds Lodge of Carstairs. Thank you all very much Ethel Yousph and Family.

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**DIDSBURY
REVIEW**

**DIDSBURY
REVIEW**

Accused in murder case will next appear in court in January

BY PAUL EVEREST
MVP Staff

An expected resolution to a case involving a 24-year-old man charged with first-degree murder who was living in Olds at the time of his arrest is scheduled for Jan. 8 in Calgary.

Dustin Piper is accused of murdering Airdrie resident Garland Curtis in January.

Following a brief court appearance in Calgary on Nov. 29 where Crown lawyer Britta Kristensen requested the matter be put over while the Crown and defence try to see if the case can be resolved without trial, Piper next appeared in court on Dec. 13 where the matter was put over again to the new year.

Piper has pleaded not guilty to the murder charge and elected to have his case heard by a judge and jury. He has remained in custody in the Calgary Remand Centre since he was arrested in Didsbury on March 16.

Piper's case has been put over several times since his arrest as lawyers waited for disclosure from police and because the lawyer representing Piper went on leave.

Curtis, who was 40 at the time of his death, was found dead in his Airdrie home on Jan. 10 after a co-worker in Fort McMurray reported him missing. Police have said Piper and Curtis knew each other for a number of years as friends.

A man who attended a court appearance for Piper

earlier this year told reporters he was in a relationship with the accused at the time of his arrest and said Piper and Curtis had been romantically involved.

Curtis's 1994 Saturn sedan was discovered abandoned at a business in Olds on Jan. 21 and police said the vehicle was driven here following the murder.

According to posts on his Facebook and LinkedIn pages at the time of his arrest, Piper attended Hugh Sutherland School in Carstairs and graduated from that school in 2007.

A local couple told the Olds Albertan in March that Piper had lived with them at their home in Olds from March to August 2012.

The first-degree murder charge against Piper has not been proven in court.

TOWN OF DIDSBURY



Town Office: 8:30 am to 4:30 pm 403.335.3391
Public Works: 8:00 am to 4:30 pm 403.335.8343
Information Line 403.335.2030
After Hours Pager 403.507.3624
Didsbury Neighborhood Place 403.335.8719
Aquatic Centre and Arena 403.335.7369

PUBLIC MEETINGS

REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING: Tuesday, January 28 at 7:00 pm.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING: Tuesday, January 14 at 7:00 pm.

MUNICIPAL PLANNING COMMISSION: Wednesday, January 8 at 4:30 pm.

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings are held in Council Chambers at the Town Office.



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TOWN OF DIDSBURY HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSURES

The Town Office, Didsbury Neighborhood Place, and Public Works will be open until noon on December 31, and closed all day on January 1. The Memorial Complex will be closed on January 1.

Employment Opportunities

The Town of Didsbury is currently accepting applications for:

- Mountain View Parent LINK Facilitator - Part-time
- Lifeguard - Part-time
- Child Care Worker - Part-time
- Customer Service Representative - Part-time

For more details and how to apply, please go to: www.didsbury.ca/town/careers

ANIMAL LICENSE RENEWALS

It's that time again! Pet Registration for 2014 will commence as of January 2, 2014! For the entire month of January Pet registration will only be \$15.00! After January 31 registration fees will be \$20 for altered animals and \$40 for unaltered animals. We remind residents who own pets (whether they are indoor or outdoor) that you are required under the Town of Didsbury cat control and dog control bylaws to register them with the Town of Didsbury. Failure to license your pet could result in a fine of \$115.00.

Having your pet registered will enable Animal Control to return your pet directly to you if found at large. Failing to register your pet can result in them being taken to a kennel and a kennel fee being incurred until you, as the owner, can be found.



SWIM-IN MOVIE

Monsters University

Saturday, January 11, 2014

5-7 pm

Didsbury Aquatic Centre

Regular admission in effect.

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ROLLOUT CART PICK UP SCHEDULE

December

January

Black Bin 31

2,14,15,16,28,29,30

Green Bin Collection of green bins will start-up again in the spring of 2014

- Please visit www.didsbury.ca/recycling to view pick-up zone map to determine what day your bin will be picked up.
- Recycling Blue Bins will be picked up every week on your collection day.

HOLIDAY WASTE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

For the week of December 30, 2013 to January 3, 2014, waste collection will be:

- Black and blue bin collection on December 31 and January 2. No collection on January 1, 2014.
- Residents on Wednesday pickup will be collected Thursday or Friday instead. Please leave your bins out from 7 am on Thursday until they are collected.

UTILITY E-BILL UPDATE

Effective immediately, the Town of Didsbury will not be issuing e-bills for utility statements. This is due to numerous program glitches with the program that produces and sends out our utility bills. When the e-billing does begin, we will be implementing the e-bills in a phased approach. Within the Town there are five routes. We will be beginning with Route One. Each person in Route One will be contacted and they will be asked if they would like an e-bill and we will be checking to ensure that the email address we have is correct. Only when we have Route One completely finished and with 100% accuracy, will we start Route Two. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we work to correct this issue.

PROPERTY TAX PAYMENT REMINDER

Any balances that remain outstanding on your property tax as of December 31, 2013, will be subject to a year-end penalty of 18%.

HOST FAMILIES NEEDED

As part of the Maple Leaf Exchange Program, students from Miki-Town will be visiting Didsbury again in March 2014. We are looking for families willing to open up their home to a Japanese student between the ages of 13 - 15, and let them experience life in Didsbury. Tentative dates for their stay in Didsbury is March 20 - 24, 2014.

If you are interested or would like more information, please contact CynDee Walden, Maple Leaf Exchange Coordinator at 403.335.7724 or by email at cwalden@didsbury.ca.

SEASON'S GREETINGS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM MAYOR, COUNCIL AND STAFF!

NEW DEVELOPMENT PERMIT APPLICATIONS

The following Development Permits have been issued for these proposed developments:

DP 13-81 1521 Walter Place
DP 13-82 17 Westheights Crescent

Deck - Existing
Deck - Existing

R2
R1

Further information may be obtained at the Town Office, 2037 - 19 Avenue or by calling 403-335-3391. Persons wishing to appeal any of these decisions must do so in writing, with the appropriate fees, to the Secretary, Development Appeal Board, prior to 12:00 p.m. on January 7, 2014.

Dani Woodman - Development Officer

Moving progressively into the future by enhancing our community and quality of life, while respecting our history.